



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Director of Health Services

At its meeting held September 14, 2004, the Board took the following action:

S-1

The following item was called up for consideration:

Status report by the Chief of Operations of Public Health, the Director of Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Programs and the Area Health Officer of Service Planning Areas 1 and 2 on implementing the June 2004 report, "Infant Mortality Among African-Americans in the Antelope Valley," including a status report by the Program Director and Program Sponsor of the Black Infant Health Program, a community-based agency in the Antelope Valley.

Bishop Henry W. Hearn, Vice Mayor of Lancaster and Senior Pastor of the First Missionary Baptist Church of Littlerock, and McKinley Kemp, Director of Black Youth Health Programs, addressed the Board.

John F. Schuhoff, Ph.D., Chief of Operations, introduced Deborah Davenport, Area Health Officer of Service Planning Areas 1 and 2, Department of Health Services, who provided an update to the aforementioned June 2004 "Infant Mortality Among African-Americans in the Antelope Valley" report. Cynthia Harding, Director of Maternal, Child, Adolescent Programs, Department of Health Services, was also present. Yvonne Michelle Autry addressed the Board.

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

"With infant mortality generally in decline in the United States and the extraordinary rise in Antelope Valley, it is vital that the recommendations put forth in the attached 2004 report on 'Infant Mortality Among African-Americans in the Antelope Valley', are implemented as soon as possible."

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S-1 (Continued)

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, unanimously carried, the Board directed the Directors of Health Services and Public Health to seek grant funding for which existing resources are not available and to implement the five recommendations referenced in the attached 2004 report on Infant Mortality Among African-Americans in the Antelope Valley, and to:

- a) Organize a resource group of local providers and community advocates to determine viability of opening a women's health care local one-stop shop or "drop-in" care centers for at-risk persons in targeted areas of the Antelope Valley;
- b) Work with the County Legislative Analyst to prepare language to advocate for Medi-Cal coverage for women two years post-partum to provide inter-conception care;
- c) Work with community partners to increase the use of newborn referral forms for infants born to mothers on Medi-Cal;
- d) Direct the Department of Health Services' perinatal clinics to provide Comprehensive Perinatal Service Program (CPSP) level of care to assure quality of care and integration of Public Health into Personal Health Services;
- e) Promote CPSP and prenatal care guidelines for use by community health providers to enhance psychosocial outreach and resource referral to women enrolled in Medi-Cal for their prenatal care; and
- f) Expand the Nurse Family Partnership, Prenatal Care Guidance, and Black Infant Health programs and other Antelope Valley community-based home visitation programs through training.

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Attachment

Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Director of Public Health